

In the Claims

Please cancel Claims 1-34.

Please add the following new claims:

35. (New) A method for formatting a document for presentation on an output device comprising:

determining a set of capabilities of the output device;

selecting one of a plurality of style sheets based upon the set of capabilities of the output device; and

formatting the document for presentation on the output device using the selected style sheet.

36. (New) The method of Claim 35, wherein a layout generator is used for determining a set of capabilities of the output device and selecting one of a plurality of style sheets based upon the set of capabilities of the output device.

37. (New) The method of Claim 36, wherein the layout generator is external to the document.

38. (New) The method of Claim 36, wherein the layout generator is embedded in the document.

39. (New) The method of Claim 35, further comprising:
embedding the selected style sheet in the document.

40. (New) The method of Claim 39, wherein embedding the selected style sheet comprises placing a style tag corresponding to the selected style sheet in the document.

41. (New) The method of Claim 39, wherein the document includes a plurality of tags and wherein embedding the selected style sheet comprises placing style attributes corresponding to the selected style sheet in the tags of the document.

42. (New) A method for formatting a document for presentation on an output device comprising:

selecting a layout generator;

determining a set of capabilities of the output device;

generating a selected style sheet based upon the set of capabilities of the output device using the layout generator; and

formatting the document for presentation on the output device using the selected style sheet.

43. (New) The method of Claim 42, wherein the layout generator is a general purpose layout generator for use with a plurality of documents.

44. (New) The method of Claim 42, wherein the layout generator is designed only for use with the document.

45. (New) The method of Claim 42, wherein the selected style sheet is external to the document.

46. (New) The method of Claim 42, wherein the selected style sheet is embedded in the document.

47. (New) The method of Claim 42, wherein generating a selected style sheet comprises selecting a style definition which defines a format value for a format property, the format value supported by the set of capabilities of the output device.

48. (New) A method for generating a style sheet used to format a document for presentation on an output device comprising:

selecting a layout generator;

interrogating the output device to determine a set of capabilities of the output device using the layout generator; and

based upon the set of capabilities of the output device, generating a style sheet having a plurality of style definitions for formatting the document for presentation on the output device.

49. (New) The method of Claim 48, further comprising:

embedding the generated style sheet in the document.

50. (New) The method of Claim 48, wherein the generated style sheet is external to the document.

51. (New) The method of Claim 48, wherein generating a style sheet comprises:

selecting a style sheet from a plurality of style sheets.

52. (New) The method of Claim 48, wherein each of the style definitions assigns a format value to a format property, and wherein generating a style sheet having a plurality of style definitions comprises generating a plurality of style definitions with format values supported by the set of capabilities of the output device.

53. (New) The method of Claim 48, wherein the document is a generalized markup language document.